



EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WORCESTER, INC.

397 Grove Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

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January 24, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Atty. Hesse:

The Educational Association of Worcester wishes to add its support to the position expressed by NEA President Bob Chase regarding the Microsoft case.

Urban school systems such as Worcester, Massachusetts struggle to provide computers and computer technology training for the entire school population. Many of our students do not have home access to computers and rely totally on school to provide them with this exposure and experience. The teachers need technology training to integrate the computer use into the full curriculum and often find that the school system has financial constraints against providing this help. Computers and other equipment have often been closed out in various businesses and then donated to schools. The schools have then discovered that these do not work well or consistently. Students and teachers then find enthusiasm and plans derailed and it is extremely difficult to resurrect later. Service contracts and constancy in training are vital components to equalize learning experiences for all students.

The proposed settlement to United States v. Microsoft is a reasonable attempt to redress these problems. Please regard the EAW/MTA/NEA as supporting this settlement agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Gutkoski Dufault". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Janet Gutkoski Dufault
President

JGD:eb



EAW: an affiliate of the Massachusetts Teachers Association and the National Education Association



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